

My mind to me a kingdom is

Psalmes, sonets, & songs, 1588, no.14

Sir Edward Dyer (1543-1607)

William Byrd

Superius
[Soprano]
The first singing part

Medius
[Alto]

Contratenor
[Alto]

Tenor
[Tenor]

Bassus
[Bass]

1. My mind to me a
5. I laugh not at an -
6. My wealth is health and

1. My mind to me a king - dom is,
5. I laugh not at an - o - ther's loss,
6. My wealth is health and per - fect ease,

1. My mind to me a king - dom is, a king - dom
5. I laugh not at an - o - ther's loss, an - o - ther's
6. My wealth is health and per - fect ease, and per - fect

1. My mind to
5. I laugh not
6. My wealth is

1. My mind to me a king dom is, a
5. I laugh not at an - o - ther's loss, an -
6. My wealth is health and per fect ease, and

S.
king - dom is, such per - fect joy there - in I
- o - ther's loss, nor grudge not at an - o - ther's
per - fect ease, and con - science clear my chief de -

A.
such per - fect, such per - fect joy there - in I find, there - in I
nor grudge not, nor grudge not at an - o - ther's gain, an - o - ther's
and con science, and con - science clear my chief de - fence, my chief de -

A.
is, such per - fect joy there - in I
loss, nor grudge not at an - o - ther's
ease, and con - science clear my chief de -

T.
me a king - dom is, such per - fect joy there - in I find:
at an - o - ther's loss, nor grudge not at an - o - ther's gain:
health and per - fect ease, and con science clear my chief de - fence,

B.
king - dom is, such per - fect joy there - in I
- o - ther's loss, nor grudge not at an - o - ther's
per - fect ease, and con - science clear my chief de -

S. find, gain: -fence, That it ex - cels all o - ther bliss, no world -ly waves my mind can toss, I ne - ver seek by bribes to please,

A. find, there - in I gain: -fence, my chief de - find: gain: fence, That it ex - cels all o - ther bliss, my mind can toss, my mind can

A. find: gain: -fence, That it ex - cels all o - ther bliss, all o - ther bliss, my mind can toss, my mind can

T. That it ex - cels all o - ther bliss, all o - ther bliss, which God or no world -ly waves my mind can toss, my mind can toss, I brook that I ne - ver seek by bribes to please, by bribes to please, nor by de -

B. find: gain: -fence, that it ex - cels all o - ther bliss, which gain: no world - ly waves my mind can toss, I -fence, I ne - ver seek by bribes to please, nor

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S. which God or Na - ture hath as - signed. I brook that is an - o - ther's bane: nor by de - sert to give of - fence:


A. bliss, which God or Na - ture hath as signed: Though much I toss, I brook that is an - o - ther's bane: I fear no please, nor by de - sert to give of - fence: thus do I


A. bliss, which God or Na - ture hath as - signed, hath as -signed: toss, I brook that is an - o - ther's bane, o - ther's bane: please, nor by de - sert to give of - fence, give of - fence:

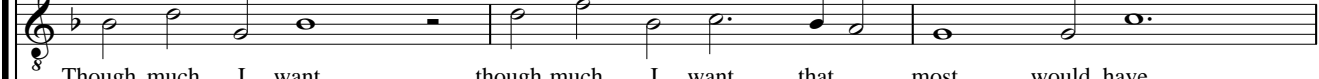
T. Na - ture hath as - signed, hath as -signed, hath as -signed: is an - o - ther's bane, o - ther's bane, o - ther's bane: -sert to give of - fence, give of - fence, give of - fence:


B. God or Na - ture hath as - signed; Though brook that is an - o - ther's bane: I by de - sert to give of - fence: thus

S.  Though much I want, that most would have,
I fear no foe, nor fawn on friend,
thus do I live, thus will I die,

A.  want, that most would have, would have, yet still my mind for -
foe nor fawn on friend, on friend, I loath not life nor
live, thus will I die, I die, would all did so

A.  Though much I want that most would have, would have, yet still my
I fear no foe nor fawn on friend, on friend, I loath not
thus do I live, thus will I die, I die, would all

T.  Though much I want, though much I want that most would have,
I fear no foe nor fawn on friend, nor fawn on friend,
thus do I live, thus do I live, thus will I die,

B.  much I want, that most would have, yet
fear no foe nor fawn on friend, I
do I live, thus will I die, would

S.  yet still my mind, for - bids to crave,
I loath not life, nor dread mine end.
would all did so as well as I.

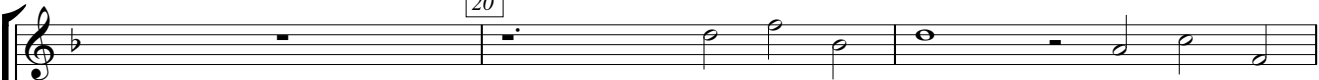
A.  -bids to crave, for - bids to crave, to crave.
dread mine end, nor dread mine end, mine end.
well as I, so well as I, as I.


A.  mind, yet still my mind for - bids to crave, for - bids to
life, I loath not life nor dread mine end, nor dread mine
did, would all did so as well as I, as well as


T.  yet still my mind for - bids to crave, to crave. Though much I
I loath not life nor dread mine end, mine end. I fear no
would all did so as well as I, as I. Thus do I

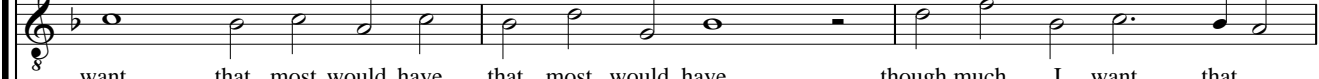
B.  still my mind, for - bids to crave, to crave. Though
loath not life nor dread mine end, mine end. I
all did so as well as I, as I. Thus


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S.  Though much I want that most would
I fear no foe nor fawn on
Thus do I live, thus will I

A.  Though much I want, though much I want, that most would_ have, would____
I fear no foe I fear no foe nor fawn on__ friend, on____
Thus do I live, thus do I live, thus will I__ die, I____

A.  crave. Though much I want that__ most would have, would have,
end. I fear no foe nor__ fawn on friend, on friend,
I. Thus do I live, thus__ will I die, I die,

T.  want, that most would have, that most would have, though much I want that__
foe nor fawn on friend, nor fawn on friend, I fear no foe nor__
live, thus will I die, thus will I die, thus do I live, thus__

B.  much I want that most would have, that most would
fear no foe nor fawn on friend, nor fawn on
do I live, thus will I die, thus will I

S.  have, yet still my mind for - bids to
friend, I loath not life nor dread mine
die, would all did so as well as

A.  have, yet still my mind for - bids to__ crave, to crave,
friend, I loath not life nor dread mine__ end, mine end,
die, would all did so as well as__ I, as I,

A.  yet still my mind for - bids to__ crave, for - bids to
I loath not life nor dread mine__ end, nor dread mine
would all did so as well as__ I, as well as

T.  most would have, yet still my mind, for - bids to crave, to__
fawn on friend, I loath not life nor dread mine end, mine__
will I die, would all did so as well as I, as__

B.  have, yet still my mind for - bids to crave, to
friend, I loath not life nor dread mine end, mine
die, would all did so as well as I, as

S.
 crave, yet still my mind for - bids to crave, to crave.
 end, I loath not life nor dread mine end, mine end.
 I, would all did so as well as I, as I.

A.
 yet still my mind for - bids to crave.
 I loath not life nor dread mine end.
 would all did so as well as I.

A.
 crave, yet still my mind for - bids to _____ crave.
 end, I loath not life nor dread mine _____ end.
 I, would all did so as well as _____ I.

T.
 crave, to crave, for - bids to crave.
 end, mine end, nor dread mine end.
 I, as I, as well as I.

B.
 crave, yet still my mind for - bids to crave.
 end, I loath not life nor dread mine end.
 I, would all did so as well as I.

1. My minde to me a kingdome is,
 such perfect joy therin I find,
 That it excells all other blisse,
 which God or Nature hath assign'd.
 Though much I want, that most would have,
 yet still my mind forbids to crave.
2. No princely port nor welthie store,
 no force to winne a victorie,
 no wyly wit to salve a sore,
 no shape to winne a loving eye:
 to none of these I yeld as thrall,
 for why my minde despise them all.
3. I see that plentie surfeits oft,
 and hastie clymbers soonest fall:
 I see that such as are a loft,
 mishap doth threaten most of all:
 these get with toyle and keepe with feare,
 such cares my minde can never beare.
4. I presse to beare no haughtie sway,
 I wish no more then may suffice:
 I doe no more than well I may,
 look what I want my minde supplies,
 loe thus I triumph like a King,
 my minde content with any thing.
5. I laugh not at anothers losse,
 nor grudge not at anothers gaine:
 no worldly waves my minde can tosse,
 I brooke that is anothers bane:
 I feare no foe nor fawne on friend,
 I loth not lyfe nor dread mine end.
6. My wealth is health and perfect ease,
 and conscience cleere my chiefe defence,
 I never seeke by brybes to please,
 nor by desert to give offence:
 thus doe I live, thus will I dye,
 would all did so as well as I.

Editorial notes

Bracketed accidentals, and all other directions within square brackets, are editorial.

Original punctuation has generally been retained as possibly indicative of required phrasing.

The spelling of underlaid text has been modernised. The version printed after the music is (1) as underlaid in the *Superius* partbook, (2-6) as printed after the music in all the books.

The underlay of vv. 5-6 is editorial, the first verse only being underlaid in the original edition.